

It is important for us to see the connection between the Endangered Species Act, biological diversity, and taxol.

WHO IS IMMORAL AND WHO IS CORRUPT?

(Mr. RANGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, my dear friends and colleagues, yesterday I was attacked by one of my Republican friends as supporting a corrupt and immoral welfare system, and then he scurried off the floor. This morning, I was attacked by my Speaker for being wedded to an immoral welfare system. But it was not on the floor. It was in a plush hotel in New York City, being dined by some of the most successful businessmen that we have.

Mr. Speaker, wherever you are, whether it is old policy or Old Testament or New Testament, leave that beautiful hotel before you come back to your job and visit the lesser among us, visit those who are hungry, some without homes, without jobs, and without hope and see what is corrupt and immoral when we in this House have seen fit to cut from these people \$69 billion.

Is this to reduce the deficit, is this for our national interests? No, it is for special interests.

Let us see who is immoral and who is corrupt.

REINVENTING WELFARE

(Mrs. SEASTRAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, reinventing welfare has been tried six times. The result: More and more spending, less and less results.

Today we will decide whether we want so-called reinvented welfare or whether we want fewer individuals on the cruel cycle of government dependence. Today, we decide if we believe those in our local communities know better how to help their own communities or whether Washington knows best. Today we decide between ending the welfare entitlement mentality or spending more money to perpetuate the current cruel welfare state.

Those of us who are ready to end the failed liberal welfare system have to stand up and cast a tough vote. The defenders of the current welfare state will accuse us of being cruel, not acknowledging that the current system turns welfare clients into its victims. Our vote will begin the process of changing a cruel welfare system into a system of hope, independence and opportunity based on the dignity of work and personal responsibility. We must act today.

CONCEPTS IN THE DEAL BILL WILL SURVIVE

(Mr. LEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, the Deal bill did not receive a majority of the votes yesterday but its basic concepts will survive, indeed prevail.

The potentially historic unanimous vote of Democrats on the Deal substitute resulted not only from hard work but mainly from its content.

In a word, Deal is mainstream, the House Republican version is extreme.

The status quo on welfare is dead; the question is what will replace it.

I predict that the version coming out of the Senate will be much closer to Deal than to the House Republican version.

As to work—the key to welfare reform—as the CBO has started, Deal will move people from welfare to work; the House Republican version is mainly a hollow promise.

Likewise on child and medical care for children of parents who should be required to move off of welfare to work.

The Senate also will not adopt the House Republicans' punitive provisions relating to children of teen mothers, second children; hundreds of thousands of seriously handicapped children; kids in foster care or up for adoption, as well as legal taxpaying immigrants.

Deal will indeed live another day.

SECRETARY CISNEROS SHOULD MAKE PUBLIC COPIES OF GIFT TAX RETURNS FOR YEARS IN QUESTION

(Mr. SENSENBRENNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros had a reason to lie to the FBI when he told them that he never gave his former mistress more than \$10,000 a year unless he filed gift tax returns reporting higher payments. Federal tax law gives individuals a \$10,000 annual exemption from gift taxes to a single donee, or \$20,000 if the donor's spouse joins in the gift.

Secretary Cisneros ought to make public copies of all gift tax returns for years he gave his former mistress more than \$10,000. If he fails to do so, the Attorney General should broaden her request for an independent counsel to look into possible tax law violations by Cisneros.

A PROMISE OF SIMPLE DECENCY TO IMMIGRANTS

(Mr. MENENDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the chairman of the Ways and

Means Committee pointed with pride to ancestors who came here not with their hands out, but to work.

I must ask the chairman, did any of his distinguished ancestors receive free government land?

The great State of Texas was founded by pioneers drawn there by government land grants. For example, in 1838, Texas gave one John Archer more than a thousand acres in Shelby County.

I guess that is not welfare.

We remember this history with pride because such grants brought to our shores people who built not only the State of Texas, but the wealthiest Nation on Earth.

The time for free land is over. But as the son of immigrants, I ask from the sons and daughters of earlier settlers a simple promise to those who came later: If you come here legally, if you work hard, if you pay your taxes, and abide by our laws, and fall on hard times through no fault of your own, you will be eligible to help your sick child, or infirm wife. That is simple human decency. We do not want land, we just want fairness.

HELPING AMERICANS GET OFF WELFARE

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, not long ago a fisherman off the coast of Savannah discovered if he sailed his boats to a certain spot each day and fed a school of dolphins that they would start gathering at that spot daily. Next he observed a lot of Yankees heading south on I-95 who had pockets and briefcases and purses full of money.

So, being an astute entrepreneur, he then put one and one together and he said, hey tourists, want to see some fish? For 20 bucks I will take you out in my boats. You will see hundreds of them, and for an extra 5 bucks I will throw in a fish head and you too can play Jacques Cousteau, and the tourists just kept pulling off I-95 and jamming the exit.

The fisherman was growing rich and the dolphins fat. Then enter Fish and Wildlife. Hold everything, they said, you cannot do this; you are making the fish dependent, you are disturbing their ability to fend for themselves. And they were right. It was not in the best long-term interests of the dolphins.

Question: Why do not we elevate people to the same status of dolphins? Let us consider what the welfare system is doing to our fellow man.

If the dolphin beaches itself, let us help it back out to the ocean. If a fellow American falls down, let us help him get back up, but let us not throw him in a hopeless mire of a welfare system that does not work.